1.      An apparatus for power savings in a computing device communicating with a remote site over a network, the apparatus comprising:

an interface module configured to receive a power saving command from a remote site on a network;

a determination module configured to determine whether the client is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command; and

a power saving module configured to execute a selected power saving scheme responsive to a determination that the client is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power saving command.

2.      The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the power saving module is further configured to select from a plurality of power saving schemes, and further comprising a policy module configured to store policy information for use in determining which of the plurality of power saving schemes to execute.

3.      The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the power saving module is configured to select from a plurality of power saving schemes, the apparatus further comprising a state module, the state module configured to determine the computing device's current state to be used by the power saving module in selecting from the plurality of power saving schemes.

4.  The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the state module tracks at least one condition to determine the current state of the client, the condition selected from the group consisting of:

> time elapsed since the keyboard has been pressed;
>
> time elapsed since the hard drive has been accessed;
>
> time elapsed since the video image has changed; and
>
> the time of day.

5.  The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the power saving module is configured to select from a plurality of power saving schemes, at least one of the plurality of power saving schemes selected from the group consisting of:

> take no action;
>
> turn the computing device off;
>
> place the computing device into a low power state;
>
> place the CPU of the computing device in a low power state through clock throttling;
>
> pass a message to the operating system of the computing device that mimics the pressing of a keyboard key;
>
> make a call to the operating system of the computing device; and
>
> turn off video output from the computing device.

6.  The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the power saving module is configured to select from a plurality of power saving schemes, and further comprising a configuration module configured to receive input from a user regarding criteria for selecting from the plurality of power saving schemes.

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7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the interface module comprises a network interface card configured to generate a system management interrupt upon receipt of the power saving command from the network.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the determination module and the power saving module are stored in a BIOS of the computing device and are called as a result of the system management interrupt.

9. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the determination module and the power saving module are part of the computer's operating system and are called as a result of the system management interrupt.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the computing device's operating system comprises an Advanced Configuration and Power Interface and wherein the interface module is configured to access the determination module and the power saving module via the Advanced Configuration and Power Interface.

11. A server for initiating power savings in a plurality of computing devices across a network, the server comprising:

an interface module configured to transmit a power saving command to a remote computing device across a network;

a timing module configured to select a time for transmitting the power saving command; and

the power saving command configured to be received by a remote computing device that is configured to receive the power saving command and selectively enter a power saving state.

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12.    The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising a policy module configured to store policy information for use in determining how and when to transmit power saving commands.

13.    A system for power savings in a network computing environment, the system comprising:

a network;

a server computing device configured to send a power saving command over the network; and

a plurality of client computing devices configured to receive a power saving command over the network, wherein the client computing devices are configured to receive the power saving command and selectively enter a power saving state.

14.    The system of claim 13, wherein each client computing device comprises:

an interface module configured to receive a power saving command over the network from the server computing device;

a determination module configured to determine whether the client computing device is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power saving command; and

a power saving module configured to execute a selected power saving scheme responsive to a determination that the client is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command.

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15.     The system of claim 13, wherein the interface module of each client computing device comprises:

a network interface card configured to generate a system management interrupt upon receipt of the power saving command from the network.

16.     The system of claim 13, wherein the power saving command is broadcast to all client computing devices simultaneously.

17.     The system of claim 13, wherein the power saving command is sent to each client computing device one at a time.

18.     The system of claim 17, wherein the power saving command is sent to each client computing device according to the IP address of each client computing device.

19.     A method for power savings in a computing device communicating with a remote site over a network, the method comprising:

receiving a power saving command from a remote site on a network;

determining whether the computing device is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command; and

executing a selected power saving scheme responsive to a determination that the client is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power saving command.

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20. The method of claim 19 further comprising:

storing policy information which can be used by the apparatus in determining whether the computing device is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command and selecting said power saving scheme; and

. providing said policy information to the apparatus.

21. The method of claim 19, further comprising generating a system management interrupt upon receipt of the power saving command.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein the steps of determining whether the computing device is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command and the step of executing a selected power saving scheme are executed from code stored in a BIOS of the computing device.

· 23. The method of claim 19, wherein the steps of determining whether the computing device is. in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command and the step of executing a selected power saving scheme are executed as a result of a call to the operating system's Advanced Configuration and Power Interface.

24.     An apparatus for power savings in a computing device, the apparatus comprising:

       means for receiving a power saving command from a remote site on a network;

       means for determining whether the computing device is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command; and

       means for executing a selected power saving scheme responsive to a determination that the client is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command.

25.     The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising:

       means for storing and providing policy information which can be used by the apparatus in determining state and selecting said power saving scheme; and

       means for receiving configuration input to modify the functioning of the apparatus.

26.     A computer readable storage medium comprising computer readable code configured to carry out a method for power savings in a computing device, the method comprising:

       receiving a power saving command from a remote site on a network;

       determining whether the computing device is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command; and

       executing a selected power saving scheme responsive to a determination that the client is in a selected state whereby it can comply with the power savings command.

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27. The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the selected power saving scheme is selected from a plurality of power saving schemes, the method for power savings further comprising storing policy information for use in determining which of the plurality of power saving schemes to select for execution.

28. The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the step of receiving a power saving command is performed by a network interface card.

29. The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the method for power savings further comprises generating a system management interrupt.

30. The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the method for power savings further comprises calling the computing device's BIOS to handle the steps of determining whether the computing device is in a selected state and executing a selected power saving scheme.

31. The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the method for power savings further comprises calling the computing device's Advanced Configuration and Power Interface to handle the steps of determining whether the computing device is in a selected state and executing a selected power saving scheme.